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PAUL J. MAGINOT HAROLD C. MOORE MICHAEL D. BECK DAVID M. LOCKMAN A DAVID B. QUICK JAMES D. WOOD RUSSELL E. FOWLER II

A GEORGIA & OHIO BARE ALSO

MAGINOT, MOORE & BECK LLP

PATENT AND TRADEMARK ATTORNEYS

BANK ONE CENTER/TOWER
111 MONUMENT CIRCLE, SUITE 3000
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-5115

Telephone (317) 638-2922 Facsimile (317) 638-2139

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TO: U.S.P.T.O. EXAMINER SHAFFER
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1842-0018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Johnson et al.) Examiner: Richard R. Shaffer) Art Unit: 3733	CENTRAL FAX CENTER
Application No.: 10/624,066 Filed: July 21, 2003) Confirmation No. 5163	NOV 2 1 2005
TISSUE DISTRACTION DEVICE) November 21, 2005	

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQURIEMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir.

Please consider the following amendment and arguments in response to the Office Action dated October 28, 2005. This response is being filed within the initial one-month period which expires on November 28, 2005. Thus, it is believed that no extensions of time of associated fees are due; however, in the event that an extension is required, the Commissioner is requested to provide such extension and is authorized to deduct the necessary fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

> Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on November 23, 2005 to the central facsimile number 571-273-8300 Signature Michael D. Beck Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of transmission, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.